

MEETING MINUTES
NORTHWEST PORT CHARLOTTE WATERWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
September 3, 2014 – Regular Meeting
3:00 p.m. - Building Construction Services Conference Room

Attendees: Joseph Fabini, Mark Fitzpatrick, Paul Elliott, and Ron Larrivee

Absent: Robert Olson Jr. (excused)

County: Mike Dallenbach, Judith Nothdurft and Sandy Wright

Guests: Sign-in sheet attached

Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m. A roll call was taken that established a quorum was present.

The minutes from the July 23, 2014 were unanimously approved as amended.

Citizen Input on Agenda Items: (3 Minute Limit)

- Mr. Pilch stated that the previous minutes should state under unfinished business that the post for the minimum wake sign at the Apollo & Jupiter Waterways will be replaced; the current sign can be reused on the new post. The Committee agreed to the additional change to the last minutes.

Unfinished Business:

- Exterior Channel Dredging Project – Ms. Nothdurft conveyed that Mr. Logan, Mr. Larrivee and Mr. Larson met last week during low tide to review the dredged area. They were able to navigate their way around the Cheshire Waterway area, but have received complaints from residents regarding the turn on the Cheshire Waterway. Mr. Logan will verify the channel marker plan to ensure that the marker was done correctly. Mr. Larrivee further explained their findings to the members. Mr. Logan is aware that a green number 19 channel marker needs to be installed opposite the red 18 marker to eliminate the problem of running aground. Additionally, Mr. Logan conveyed that he was not able to locate the 4 x 4 posts that were mentioned in the previous meeting. Mr. Fitzpatrick confirmed that they are gone.
- New Channel Markers – Ms. Nothdurft conveyed from Mr. Ouimet from the Sign and Marking Div. that all the pilings for the Phase I portion of the project will be installed by Sept 8, 2014; these markers include the area from the Myakka River to the three waterways in Northwest Port Charlotte. The markers that were taken out for the dredge and the ones to renumber the Cheshire Waterway will be part of Phase II and will be done after October 1st when Purchasing is allowed to issue new purchase orders. Ms. Nothdurft will follow up with Mr. Ouimet to find out why Phase II was not planned for ahead of time to allow the work to continue instead of having to wait until after October 1st.
- Jupiter & Apollo Minimum Wake Sign – The post needs to be replaced and the existing sign can be reused on the new post.

New Business:

Waterway Brush Cutting – Ms. Nothdurft referred to the January 17, 2013 NW Port Charlotte Waterway Meeting Minutes, which stated that there is no ordinance in place to make property owners responsible for trimming the vegetative growth that goes into the canals. Mr. Dallenbach stated that Public Works does not trim pepper trees on the canal. Ms. Nothdurft conveyed that the Signing & Marking Supervisor stated that the pepper trees growing into the canals causing navigational problems would be eligible for West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND) funding. He stated that if the Committee members can get the locations of the canal areas needing trimming, he could come up with a cost and place it in the next 2-year budget cycle for FY 2016 – FY 2017.

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The Committee could possibly approve the hiring of a contractor to remove the vegetation. The Committee inquired about a 25 ft. clearance requirement; Ms. Nothdurft will follow up and report back. Mr. Fitzpatrick agreed to make a list and take pictures of the overgrown vegetation over the canals to enable the Committee to get a cost estimate for brush removal. Ms. Nothdurft will confirm with Legal that the MSBU funds can be used for brush cutting.

- Financial Reports – Ms. Nothdurft answered questions from the last meeting's 9 Month Actual report. The new reports were distributed for review and discussion. The Committee asked what the Repayment Due (Liability) of \$53,000 item on the 9 Month Actual FY 2013-14 was for. Mr. Larrivee asked if the hauling of the fill is complete. Ms. Nothdurft will follow up on these items.
- Draft FY2014/2015 Budget – The Draft FY2014/2015 budget that was pre-approved by the Advisory Committee last year was distributed for review.
- Ms. Nothdurft supplied Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission contact information to the members to address the placement of crab traps in the channels.

Open discussion:

- None

Citizen Input on MSBU Related Items: (3 Minute Limit)

- Mr. Pilch asked if there is money left over, would it be possible to get an assessment decrease. There is a 10 year loan that is being paid off; there are not enough funds in reserves to allow an assessment decrease.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Submitted by:



Sandy Wright
Public Works Department

